



**Chairperson Vice-Chair**

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**DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting  
Thursday, May 28, 2009**

The meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, May 28, 2009, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members Present**

Jim Holley  
Ronald L. Griffin **(ABS)**  
Toney Stewart **(ABS)**  
Adela Rivera  
Mohamed Okdie

**Department Personnel Present**

Chief James R. Barren  
AC Ronald Fleming  
DC Herbert Moreland  
DC Jamie Fields  
DC James Tolbert  
2<sup>nd</sup> DC Rodney Liggins  
Insp. Randall Hampton  
Lt. Herbert Myles  
Sgt. Hilton Kincaid  
Sgt. Robert Jackson  
P.O. Viera Brownlee  
P.O. Sophia Nelms

**Board Staff Present**

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director  
Celia Banks-Washington, Attorney/Supervising Inv.  
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator **(ABS)**  
Lt. Lashinda Houser, Police Personnel  
Ainsley Cromwell, Supervising Inv.  
Lt. Daniel Allen  
Leslie J. Griffin, Community Affairs Coordinator  
P.O. Kent Cooper

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Edward Moore  
Mark Deldin  
Ron Scott  
Kevin Terry  
Olivia Welch

Mary Lacy  
Tijuana Morris  
Sheryl Emery  
Janet Jurus

**RECORDERS**

PO Terence Bell  
Robert Brown

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chairperson Holley** called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:09 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- **Thursday, May 28, 2009**

**MOTION:** **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Agenda.

**SECOND:** **Comm. Rivera** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **Thursday, May 21, 2009**

**MOTION:** **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Minutes.

**SECOND:** **Comm. Rivera** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

#### 4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT

##### 1. CHAIRPERSON

##### 2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

##### CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

##### 2009 - Weekly Count of Complaints:

##### This Week

35  
16  
54% Increase

##### Year to Date

612  
619  
1% Decrease

##### 2008 - Weekly Count of Complaints:

- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of **1,240** active investigations, of which **471** of those are for 2009. A total of **649** investigations have been closed since January 1, 2009.

#### TOTAL WEEKLY ALLEGATIONS & COMMAND

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS									Total
CCR	W/E 05/28/09	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Entry	Procedure	Property	Search	Service	Allegations
1	12TH PRECINCT		1								1
1	CENTRAL		1				1				2
4	COMMUNICATIONS		3				1			1	5
5	NARCOTICS		1	2	1		1				5
6	NORTHWESTERN		3		1		4			1	9
1	SEX CRIME UNIT		1								1
2	SOUTHWESTERN			1	1						2
1	TACTICAL SERVICES			1							1
13	UNKNOWN COMMAND		6	2	1		4			2	15
1	WESTERN DISTRICT		1							1	2
35			17	6	4		11			5	43

## 5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

May 28, 2009

Volume 5, Issue 22

# *Detroit Police Department*

## *Report to the Board of Police Commissioners*



### Special Points of Interest:

#### • Next meeting:

Thursday, June 4, 2009

@ 3:00 P.M.

**Detroit Police Department**  
**1300 Beaubien St. #328A**  
**Detroit, Michigan 48226**

### ***"Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships"***

*The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.*

### **SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

#### **Domestic Violence**

On May 17, 2009, officers of the Southwestern District responded to the 2000 block Wendell on a "Person with a Weapon" call and arrested a subject. As a result of the investigation conducted by members of Domestic Violence, the subject was charged with "Felony Assault, Domestic Violence, Malicious Destruction of Property, and Habitual 4th."

### Inside this issue:

Narcotics/Gang Enforcement 1

Domestic Violence 1

Tenth Precinct 2

Northeastern District 2

Southwestern District 2

Northwestern District 2

Eastern District 2

## Engaging the Community

Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the District/Precinct stations in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Mini/Sub-Stations to make reports.

		<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
		1300 Beaubien	24 Hours	596-5100
		2151 E. Jefferson	24 Hours	596-6400
		7737 Kercheval	*8 a.m. to 2 p.m.	628-2121
		19810 Grand River	*9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	870-0649
		13530 Lesure	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	596-5300
		2575 S. Schaefer	*3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	297-9423
		20 Atwater	24 Hours	237-2850
		13206 E. Jefferson	*3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	821-5851
		22101 Moross (St. John Hospital)	*3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	343-7506
		14700 Mack	*3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	852-4046

\* Mini-Stations– Monday –Friday

May 28, 2009

## *Police / Community Intervention*

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### **Tenth Precinct**

On May 23, 2009, officers of the Tenth Precinct responded to the 2000 block of Sturtevant on a "Disturbance/Malicious Destruction of Property." Subsequent to their investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with "Carrying a Concealed Weapon, Felon in Possession, Malicious Destruction of Property, and Felony Firearms." A handgun was recovered.



### **Northeastern District**

On May 24, 2009, officers of the Northeastern District responded to the 2000 block of East Outer Drive on a "Home Invasion." Subsequent to their investigation, two subjects were arrested and charged with "Home Invasion 1st."



### **Southwestern District**

On May 21, 2009, officers of the Southwestern District responded to the 15000 block of Hartwell on a "Breaking & Entering" in progress. Subsequent to their investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with Home Invasion 2nd and Habitual 4th."



### **Eastern District**

On May 18, 2009, officers of the Eastern District responded to the 11000 block of McKinney on a "Home Invasion." As a result of their investigation, two subjects were arrested and charged with "Home Invasion 2nd."

**Chief Barren** thanked everyone for being there and stated the department will continue to work on the issues and problems that confront them.

**Chairperson Holley** stated the presenters for the presentation hadn't arrived. He asked the Chief why the Sheriff's Department made the statement that crime isn't dropping but arrests are dropping.

**Chief Barren** stated he doesn't know what the Sheriff's agenda is regarding this. He stated that DPD is not the only law enforcement agency that makes arrests in Detroit, and they are doing a great job.

**Chairperson Holley** stated if all parties are working toward one goal, it makes for better success. He stated they are securing the DOT Buses and CAYMC and it seem like that want DPD as well.

**Chief Barren** stated he isn't sure why the Prosecutor or the Sheriff is taking that position on this. He believes they should look at the statistics and the demographic makeup regarding their concern.

**Chairperson Holley** stated the Prosecutor's office needs to be focused on the 5,000 prisoners that will be released and not the filling of empty jail cells. He stated that he is still waiting for the presenters to show.

**Comm. Okdie** stated that the Personnel Sub-Committee has a report.

**Chief Barren** stated he would like to introduce 2<sup>nd</sup> DC Liggons who took over for 2<sup>nd</sup> DC Tate. And look forward to working with him.

**2<sup>nd</sup> DC Liggons** stated it is a pleasure to be here and knows what the media is looking for. He will make sure that the department tells its story to the public and will not debate an issue within the media.

**Chairperson Holley** stated that this Board welcomes 2<sup>nd</sup> DC Liggons and he is an asset to the department.

## **6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Comm. Okdie** stated the Search Committee held interviews for the position of Director of Police Personnel. The committee has a recommendation and would like to present that person to the full Board next week and would like to announce that person at the community meeting with the Chair's approval.

**Chairperson Holley** stated he will wait for the committee report.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. **GRANT: REQUEST PERMISSION TO APPLY FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, 2010 WEED AND SEED COMMUNITIES COMPETITIVE GRANT**

The United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Program is currently seeking applications for funding under the Weed and Seed Communities Competitive Program. The weed and seed strategy aims to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, criminal drug-related activity, and gang activity. The weed and seed strategy is a community-based, comprehensive multi-agency approach. The Detroit Police Department will develop partnerships with community leaders, local organizations, and the local United States Attorney's Office in an effort to reduce crime and improve the quality of life for residents in the community. This grant will address crime and social related problems through the redeployment of existing public and private resources.

A specific target area within the Central District will be identified for this program. This is a five year (5) **\$1,000,000.00 grant with, a 25% cash or in kind match.** In the event that approval is granted, Sgt. Debra Coklow, of the Central District, would serve as the respective project director. **The deadline for this application is December 1, 2009.**

The Chief is requesting the Board's permission to apply for this grant and seek approval of the attached resolution from the Honorable Detroit City Council.

**MOTION:**     **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Grant.

**SECOND:**     **Comm. Rivera** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**       All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**Comm. Rivera** asked PO Brownlee to explain the Weed & Seed Program.

**PO Brownlee** stated this program is complied of different law enforcement agencies that target a specific area to weed out target 1 & 2 crimes.

**Chairperson Holley** asked how the department paying for 25 % match.

**PO Brownlee** stated volunteer services and the officers' wages as in-kind match.

**Chairperson Holley** stated this for a five year period.

**PO Brownlee** stated yes, sir.

**Chairperson Holley** stated that 5% every year or 25% at once.

**PO Brownlee** stated it comes out to be about \$130, 000 for the five years.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

**Chairperson Holley** stated that he would like to give the presenters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing more time to arrive because they are coming from Lansing and would hate for them to come such a long way and not be able to give the presentation.

Thursday, June 4, 2009  
Police Headquarters  
1300 Beaubien Rm. 328-A  
Detroit, MI 48226

**10. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE**

**K. Terry** asked what is the department doing with the testimony from the crime lab technicians that may affect some of the cases.

**Chief Barren** stated as of now the crime lab is closed, but he has read all of the cases and they are being reviewed by the prosecutor's office.

**K. Terry** stated he has made the federal government and the attorney general's office aware of this problem.

**Chairperson Holley** asked Mr. Terry if he understood what the Chief stated.

**K. Terry** stated yes.

**E. Moore** stated that Councilman Kenyetta supports this Board and the police department.

**Comm. Okdie** asked if it was possible for the meeting in the community be held at 5:30 p.m. because Comm. Griffin and he will need to leave that meeting early.

**Chairperson Holley** stated the only concern he has is for the community who probably can't make it if it is scheduled at 5:30. He will think about it and get back to him with an answer.



## **PRESENTATION: DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING**

**Chairperson Holley** stated there are some new legislation that this Board and department should be aware of as it relates to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

He stated to the Chief that there was an accident on the freeway and DC Fields did an excellent job directing traffic while it was pouring down raining.

**Chief Barren** stated he has always been an outstanding officer.

**Chairperson Holley** stated that the presenter have arrived along with her interpreter.

**C. Emery** gave a brief overview of the Deaf Persons' Interpreters Act 204 which is a new law that requires all persons who practice the profession to be licensed. She is here today to get the support of the Board regarding the City of Detroit and the police department.

**Chairperson Holley** asked what is required of the police department when they arrest a deaf person.

**C. Emery** stated the department must make sure that persons have communication access with a certified interpreter.

**Chairperson Holley** asked Chief Barren if he could speak on this matter.

**Chief Barren** stated that Directive 201.7 of the manual speaks to this and an interpreter is provided if they are interrogated or are a witness.

**Chairperson Holley** stated the department is in compliance with the new law. He stated for the record if a person is deaf and will be attending a Board meeting an interpreter will be provided.

**C. Emery** stated the issue is that person must be certified.

**Chairperson Holley** stated please let the community know that a request needs to be sent to the Board's office if a deaf person will be attending one of the Board meetings.

**Comm. Okdie** stated the other aspect that isn't being discussed, for example the incident that happened several years ago when an individual that was deaf with a rake was shot by the police. This wasn't a controlled situation that could have been manageable. So maybe there can be some training that can be provided for the deaf.

**C. Emery** stated she recalls that situation, and prior to that an organization "Deaf Options" had applied for funding to train the police department to work with the deaf and hard of hearing. Unfortunately they never got the funding. She recommends that the department should try to work with Deaf Options and Deaf Black Advocates. She stated 1 out of every 15 people have a hearing problem and most people aren't aware of that.

**Comm. Rivera** stated she has a brother who is deaf; she asked "what are the qualifications to become an interpreter".

**C. Emery** stated they must pass a test that is administered through her department and some people take additional classes.

**Comm. Rivera** asked is there a communication system for the deaf within the department.

**DC Fields** stated yes, at every station is a TTY line.

**C. Emery** stated the TTY equipment is obsolete, given that computers have been updated because most of the deaf are using video cam or text messaging to communicate.

**Comm. Rivera** stated when her brother talk to her it is by video relay. She asked if they are from the State of Michigan.

**C. Emery** stated they are all over, and the State of Michigan has four video relay centers.

**Chairperson Holley** thanked M. Emery for providing this information especially for those who aren't licensed.

**C. Emery** stated she wants the Chief to investigate those complaints that are filed against those who aren't licensed. A licensed person will be issued a card from the State of Michigan.

**DC Tolbert** stated the department needs to research this new law to make sure a policy is put in place.

**Chairperson Holley** stated is it possible to get a grant to help update the current system for the deaf.

**C. Emery** stated you don't need any new equipment; all one has to do is call the relay center.

**DC Fields** stated Cmdr. Romeo is taking notes and they will get with DC Tolbert regarding this issue.

**Chairperson Holley** he asked how many people in the city are deaf.

**C. Emery** stated 1 out of every 15 people is deaf.

**Chairperson Holley** asked if this meeting has been valuable to her.

**C. Emery** stated yes.

## **ORAL COMMUNICATION-PART 2**

**Chairperson Holley** stated for those who came late, the Board has already listened to oral communication, but granted them 2 minutes to speak.

**R. Scott** stated he agrees with DC Tolbert that the department need to research the law.

**Chairperson Holley** stated that the law was passed two years ago, and that Mr. Scott need to speak with her before she leaves.

**R. Scott** stated that there is a need for discussion on what is regulated.

He stated he has an issue with the 4 people who were shot by the police on Wednesday, May 20th. He stated there could have been a riot.

**AC Fleming** stated he wanted to set the record straight that there were only two people shot.

**(Mr. Scott talking in the background as the AC Fleming speaks.)**

**Comm. Okdie** stated to Mr. Scott that it is only courteous to allow AC Fleming to speak because he wasn't interrupted.

**AC Fleming** stated he will get with Mr. Scott and members of the department to discuss the facts.

**Chief Barren** stated he was also at the scene and there wasn't any pandemonium among the citizens.

**T. Morris** stated she was hit by a car, later to be the wife of a sergeant. That sergeant was very disrespectful.

**Chairperson Holley** asked if she wants OCI to do an investigation.

**T. Morris** stated yes, she will be filing a complaint.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**DANTE' L. GOSS**

Executive Director

Board of Police Commissioners

**DLG/rb**